

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings:

1. (CANCELED)

2. (CANCELED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein at least one carousel includes a rotary shelf.

4. (ORIGINAL) A machine according to claim 3 wherein at least one rotary shelf is perforated to allow air to flow through the shelf.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein the exterior housing further includes a transparent dome mounted over the uppermost carousel.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein the exterior housing is substantially air-tight.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein the inside of the housing is refrigerated.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 including a sensor that is arranged to activate a sound reproduction device when a person is sensed near to the machine.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein each of the plurality of floral arrangements supported on each carousel are vended at the same price.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein the carousels are stacked together in a modular arrangement.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A machine according to claim [20] 10 wherein at least one of the carousels includes a rotary shelf.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A machine according to claim [20] 5 wherein at least one rotary shelf includes steel dividers that allow removal of only one floral arrangement during a single vending operation.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20, wherein:
the machine has a front and a back and includes at least one viewing window associated with the carousel, each viewing window being arranged to permit viewing of only one floral arrangement; the at least one viewing window is positioned towards either one or both of the front or back of the machine; and

light from outside the machine may reach the floral arrangements on the carousel only by passing through the at least one viewing window.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein a light is provided at an edge of at least one viewing window.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein lights are provided about four edges of at least one viewing window.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 further including a spotlight arranged to illuminate a floral arrangement viewable through the viewing window.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein at least one viewing window is arranged to allow for vending of floral arrangements through the viewing window.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A machine according to claim [20] 17 wherein at least one of the carousels includes a rotary shelf.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A machine according to claim 20 wherein at least one rotary shelf includes steel dividers that allow removal of only one floral arrangement during a single vending operation.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A floral arrangement vending machine operatively configured to store floral arrangements therewithin and to selectively dispense or allow retrieval of a floral arrangement upon receipt of a payment therefor, said machine comprising: a stack of carousels which are generally circular in plan view and each of which is configured to support a plurality of floral arrangements in separated compartments;

a stack of at least two generally cylindrical modules, each of which has an exterior wall, the modules being interchangeably stackable to different configurations to form differently-sized machines, each generally cylindrical module containing at least one carousel therewithin, each module having an access door via which controlled access to a compartment of a carousel contained within the module can be had, the modules configured to contain floral arrangement in a suitably sealed manner to prevent unauthorized access to a carousel compartment;

a generally cylindrical exterior housing surrounding the carousels in a suitably sealed manner to prevent unauthorized retrieval of a floral arrangement from therewithin, the generally cylindrical exterior housing comprising exteriors of a stacked plurality of made up of the exteriors of the stacked generally cylindrical modules, one or more carousels being circumscribed by a corresponding module; and

an access control mechanism and structure operatively associated with the access doors and operative to control access to a carousel compartment in response to receipt of payment for a floral arrangement,

wherein,

_____ the carousels are configured to rotate about a common central axis extending parallel to the stack, and

_____ each carousel is configured to rotate relative to its module.